



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Minutes
Thursday, February 2, 2017**

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Lake County Conference Room
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

- Members Present:** Keary Cragan – U.S. EPA, Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, Jackie Forbes – Kane County Division of Transportation, Danielle Gallet – Metropolitan Planning Council, Chris Mulvaney (for Suzanne Malec-McKenna) – Chicago Wilderness, Stacy Meyers (via phone) – Openlands, Joe Schuessler – MWRD, Mike Warner – Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Moira Zellner – University of Illinois-Chicago
- Members Absent:** Lynn Boerman – IDNR Ed Collins – McHenry County Conservation District, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, David Leopold – UI Labs Chris Schmidt (for Pete Harmet) – IDOT, Deb Stone– Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Kim Wasserman-Nieto – Little Village Environmental Justice Organization
- Staff Present:** Lindsay Bayley, Nora Beck (staff liaison for ENR), Anthony Cefali, Kate Evasic, Kristin Ihnchak, Tony Manno Jason Navota, Elizabeth Oo, Jared Patton, Melissa Porter, Kelsey Pudlock, Joe Szabo
- Others Present:** Mike Klemens, Will County Governmental League, Bento Garcia – UIC, Justin Keller – UIC, Jo Pena - UIC

1.0 Call to Order

Jack Darin called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

- **ON TO 2050 Bi-Monthly Report**, [here](#).
- **Next ON TO 2050 Big Ideas Forum:** Closer to Home: Creating a Balanced Regional Housing Supply by 2050. February 28, 2017, register [here](#).

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 5 meeting was made by Sean Wiedel, seconded by Jackie Forbes. The motion carried with all in favor.

4.0 Local Technical Assistance Program, call for projects and project implementation – Tony Manno, CMAP Staff

Staff will update the committee on the upcoming call for new Local Technical Assistance (LTA) projects, and will also report on implementation of completed projects and encourage committee discussion of this issue. Referencing this [memo](#), Tony presented more information about a one-day conference to inspire LTA applicants on May 16 and asked committee members to pass along recommendations for topics and/or presenters. Next, Tony reviewed CMAP's current efforts to help local partners implement completed LTA plans and presented some future options to help spur more implementation through additional funding. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions about the LTA program (more details can be found [here](#)) and discussed the following points:

- Sources of funding for LTA projects: Unified Work Program (UWP) from IDOT, IEPA for watershed planning efforts, and Cook County Disaster Relief funding from the April 2013 floods for stormwater management.
- Alignment with GO TO 2040 and LTA projects, specifically involving the [LTA Downtown Plan in Wilmington](#) and the Illiana Expressway.
- Evaluation criteria for potential plan implementation funding. Early stages of exploration, not developed yet. Allocation of staff time to work on plan implementation is focused on opportunity and coordination with local partner.
- One committee member thought small amounts of funding for plan implementation could help keep up the momentum after plan adoption.
- Local matching barriers. Local match for LTA projects is designed to help confirm engagement of local partner and is based on a sliding scale; to date, the amount of the match hasn't presented problems for selected projects.

5.0 ON TO 2050: Stormwater and Flooding Strategy Paper – Causes and Impacts – Nora Beck, CMAP Staff

CMAP is exploring new approaches to stormwater management as it relates to flooding as part of the development of the next plan. In this initial stage, CMAP staff have been identifying the main causes of flooding as well as building a better understanding of the existing impacts of flooding. Using a [presentation](#), Nora presented a draft [memo](#) and asked for committee feedback during the meeting as well as by February 16. Committee members provided a number of suggestions:

- Causes of flooding:
 - Recognize the funding limitations in that many funding programs require a water quality improvement element.
 - Land cover changes have impacts outside of increased impervious cover. Changes to size and composition of natural areas can hinder flood control services previously provided by these sites and contribute to flooding.
 - Our current physical infrastructure and institutional planning mechanisms are not designed to be adaptive to the changes in land cover we see across the region.
 - Recognize the economic inefficiencies. Grey infrastructure is designed for a specific capacity, but it could be under or over-utilized.
 - Minimal factors of safety: New development within the floodplain is only required to be designed 1 foot above BFE, which may not adequately

protect given changing conditions. This is dissimilar to safety standards for other infrastructure, like roads and bridges.

- Repair and replacement needs, and the corresponding unknown nature of these needs more prevalent in sub-surface infrastructure.
- Impacts of flooding:
 - Connection to Lake Michigan allocation. Reposition to focus on the limits of extending water supply and recognize the regulatory issues that would be encountered if stormwater were redirected to Lake Michigan given water quality standards.

In addition, committee members discussed the following points:

- Regional assessment of stormwater infrastructure. No such regional assessment exists given how there are so many different groups maintaining grey and green infrastructure.
- Regional analysis in next stages of the strategy development. Depth of the analysis will not get into the details of specific site conditions. Temporal interactions of past data would be interesting to review.

6.0 ON TO 2050 Natural Resources Snapshot, Phase 1 Research – Jared Patton, CMAP Staff

As part of ON TO 2050 development, CMAP is preparing a Natural Resources Snapshot, which will provide an overview of key trends impacting natural resources in the region. Using a [presentation](#), Jared presented preliminary findings from the first phase of research. Committee members discussed the following points:

- GHG Inventory and comparisons with other regions, state, nation. Include a larger perspective using mechanisms like the ecological footprint and carbon footprint.
- Show air quality improvements or declines over time.
- Highlight other point and non-point sources over time, VMT, etc. to show impacts from a collection of individual actions.
- Include assessment of land management in place from agricultural lands, pesticides and fertilizers and impacts on water quality.
- Level of restoration needs, may be available from some land management agencies.
- Urban heat island effect. Could include tree canopy data and implementation efforts, such as green and reflective roofs.

7.0 ON TO 2050: Non-motorized Transportation Snapshot, Scope and initial findings – Lindsay Bayley, CMAP staff

This snapshot report is being developed as one in a series of reports on regional trends and current conditions, and will help define further research needs for future plan phases. The report will compare conditions and practice in our region for bicycling and walking and highlight changes between 2010 and now. Using a [presentation](#), Lindsay stepped through the research questions, initial findings, and exploration of indicators of walkability. Committee members discussed the following points:

- Vision Zero could be seen as the next iteration of the complete streets movement. Chicago is developing its Vision Zero plan, which will be available in the next month or two.
- Google map directions for ped and bike.
- Bike share facilities at universities and colleges

- Law enforcement data, though may be difficult to compile from all police departments in the region.
- Reflect facility designs being used by IDOT and a discussion of appropriateness of designs in different locations within the region.
- Utilize the Mayor's Pedestrian Advisory Council and the Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Council for feedback
- Safe Routes to Schools data and imbedded information in grant proposals.

8.0 Other Business.

None.

9.0 Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10.0 Next Meeting

The ENR Committee is scheduled to next meet on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nora Beck (ENR Committee Liaison)
February 2, 2017